

FY 2022 CONGRESSIONAL HEARING FACT SHEET CHLORPYRIFOS

BACKGROUND:

- Chlorpyrifos is an organophosphate insecticide registered for a large variety of agricultural and non-agricultural uses. For many years, multiple stakeholders have sought the cancellation of all uses of chlorpyrifos based upon concerns for neurotoxic effects, particularly in children.
- In 2007, the Pesticide Action Network North America (PANNA) and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) filed a petition seeking the revocation of all chlorpyrifos tolerances and the cancellation of all chlorpyrifos uses.
- In March 2017, EPA denied the petition, stating the science addressing neurodevelopmental effects required further evaluation. In July 2019, EPA denied objections to EPA's denial of the petition, stating that the data submitted with the petition was not sufficient to support revocation and that EPA would continue to consider the issue in registration review.
- In August 2019, the 2017 petitioners and several states petitioned the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit to review the July 2019 Order.
- In September 2020, EPA issued the draft ecological risk assessment and revised human health and revised drinking water assessment as part of the EPA's registration review program. In December 2020, EPA issued the Proposed Interim Decision (PID), which proposed limiting application to select uses in certain regions to mitigate potential dietary exposure, for public comment.
- The combined comment period for the draft risk assessments and PID ended on March 7, 2021.
- In Fall 2020, EPA sought peer review by the FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) of New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) that may provide additional insight into EPA's evaluation of the neurodevelopmental toxicity potential of chlorpyrifos.
- EPA is also consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Services on the potential impacts of chlorpyrifos on endangered species.
- On April 29, 2021, the Ninth Circuit ordered EPA to revoke chlorpyrifos tolerances or modify existing tolerances, provided the Agency makes a safety finding to support those tolerances, within 60 days after the issuance of the Court's mandate.
- Congressional Interest: For many years, there has been considerable Congressional interest in EPA's review of chlorpyrifos, including Senator Booker from a health perspective and House and Senate Ag Committees including Senator Stabenow representing grower interests.

KEY POINTS:

- California, New York, Hawaii, Oregon, Maryland, Connecticut, and New Jersey have sought or imposed regulations to limit or prohibit use of chlorpyrifos within their respective states.
- The European Union voted in December 2019 against the renewal of chlorpyrifos, allowing its registration and all food tolerances to expire on January 31, 2020.
- One of the four chlorpyrifos manufacturers, Corteva, has stopped manufacturing chlorpyrifos.

TALKING POINTS:

- **Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

